#### Overview

The Rebuild Website is available to the public at <a href="www.rebuild.la.gov">www.rebuild.la.gov</a>. Originally a cooperative endeavor between the Louisiana Recovery Authority, the Office of Community Development's Disaster Recovery Unit and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the website was created in 2009 as a transparency initiative to show where the recovery dollars from the 2005 and 2008 storms are being invested. The primary audiences are citizens, local elected officials, state and federal partners in recovery, planners and academicians. First and foremost, it is intended to show the general public the progress being made with taxpayer dollars towards the rebuilding of South Louisiana.

The site currently has two primary components: an **Infrastructure Portal** and a **Residential Portal**. A third portal for Economic **Development** will be added in 2013. In addition, there is a tab for **Consolidated Reports** under development that allows for jurisdictional reporting for both infrastructure and residential projects. The Consolidated Reports tab will also include Economic Development when that section is added. The home page provides links to the various portals via tabs across the top of the page.



## Infrastructure Portal

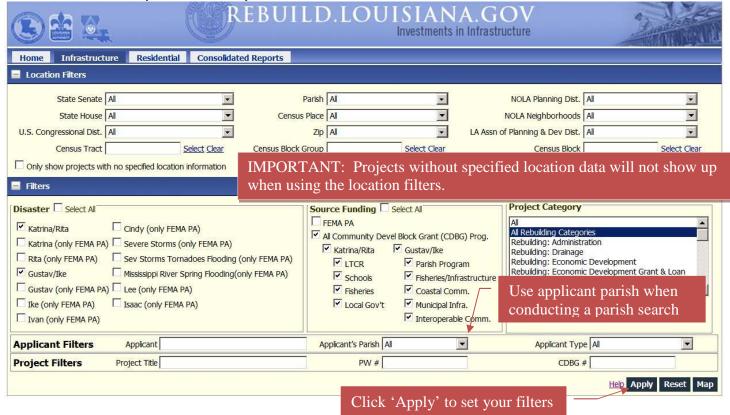
The Infrastructure Portal provides detailed information regarding a number of declared disasters, yet the default search is for the Katrina/Rita and Gustav/Ike disasters of 2005 and 2008, respectively. These two sets of disasters are the only disasters for which the state was awarded Disaster Community Development Block Grant (DCDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The projects available include FEMA Public Assistance and multiple infrastructure programs funded through DCDBG. The user may select all of these programs (the default selection) or can choose one particular program, such as Katrina/Rita Fisheries funded through DCDBG. Users can also narrow their search by location or project type: for example, all Health and Hospital related projects in Jefferson Parish. Finally, the user can also search by the Applicant, or Parish of Applicant, as well as for an individual project name or number.

In general the page is divided into two sections:

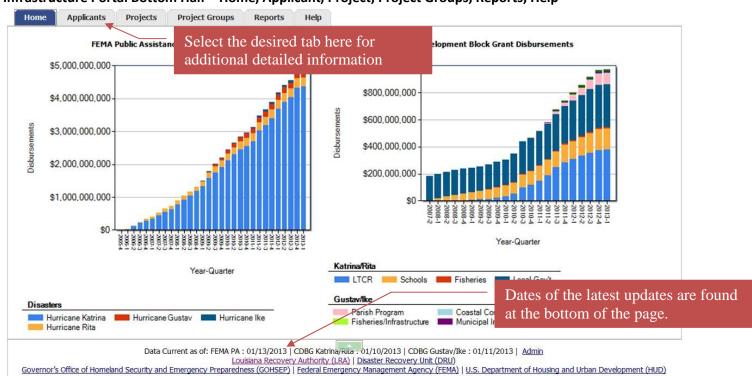
- 1) Selectable filters to narrow the search to the desired geography, program, project type or applicant; and
- 2) A series of tabs providing the actual applicant, project or report information.



Infrastructure Portal Top Half – Filter Layout



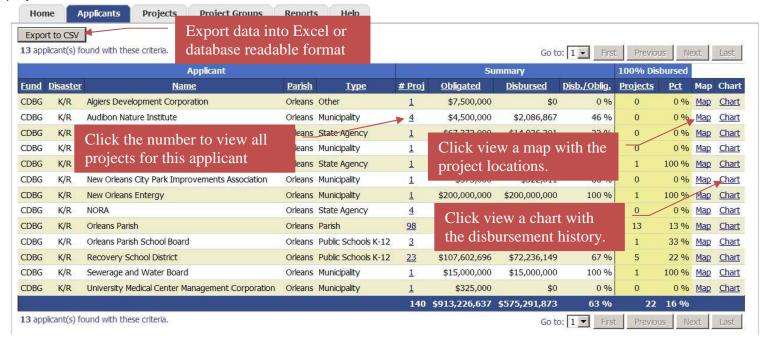
### Infrastructure Portal Bottom Half – Home, Applicant, Project, Project Groups, Reports, Help



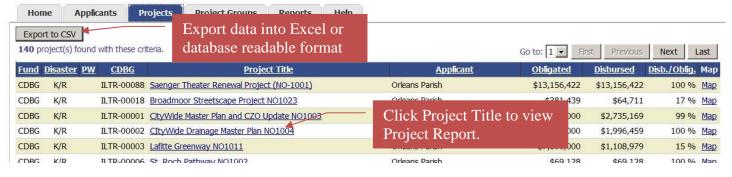


**Home Tab:** This tab gives a broad overview of disbursements over time for the selected programs. The graphs are dependent on the filters selected above.

**Applicant Tab:** This tab provides detailed, downloadable information regarding each applicant. You can click on the number of projects for a breakdown of all projects from a particular applicant. You can also retrieve a map of the projects.



**Projects Tab:** The tab provides a downloadable, line-by-line report on each project including disbursements to date.



**Project Group Tab:** While rarely used, this tab is applicable if there is a recurring request for information on a group of projects that do not easily fall within the filters on the top of the page. If requested, OCD staff can create special groups of projects. For example, all projects related to the Southern University Campus or all projects that are related to either health or first responders.

**Reports:** This tab contains standardized reports. Currently there are two reports:

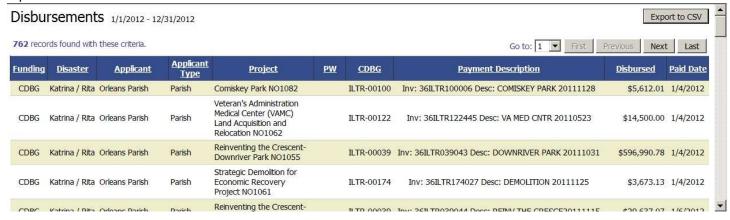
- 1) **CDBG Allocations Report:** This will provide allocations, obligations and expenditures for CDBG Infrastructure programs depending on the filters previously selected.
- 2) **Obligations and Disbursements:** Again, this report is dependent on the filters selected previously. This requires a multi-step process.
  - a. Enter the desired date range (for example, you may want all obligations and disbursements in a given month, quarter or fiscal year. The default is all disbursements. Click "Submit".



b. When you click "Submit", the total dollar amount of Obligations and Disbursements will show as a link. Click on dollar amount to see a list of all projects with disbursement during that period including the dollar amount and the date disbursed.



The report below results from clicking on the "\$70,140,850.17". It includes all transactions for that time period and is exportable to MS Excel.



**Help:** This tab provides additional information about the site, some basic instructions for using the site, further explanations of the data contained within and answers to frequently asked questions.

## **Residential Portal**

The residential portal focuses on those programs that serve to replace the tens of thousands of residential units lost or severely damaged during the hurricane events of 2005. It currently only contains housing programs administered with Katrina/Rita DCDBG funding. Within the year, the site will also include housing programs funded through Gustav/Ike DCDBG.

The HMGP households currently shown on the site represent only the state program that supplemented the mitigation needs of Road Home applicants. It does not include HMGP efforts conducted at the parish level. The programs currently included can be seen in the program filters below. They are Road Home Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP), Piggyback Program, Small Rental Property Program (SRPP), Non-Profit Rebuilding Pilot Program (NRPP) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The location filters and other aspects of the page are identical to the infrastructure portal. The tabs available are Home, Investments, Units, Reports and Help.

**Home Tab:** This tab gives a broad overview of disbursements over time for the selected programs and selected geographies. The graphs and numbers are dependent on the filters selected above.



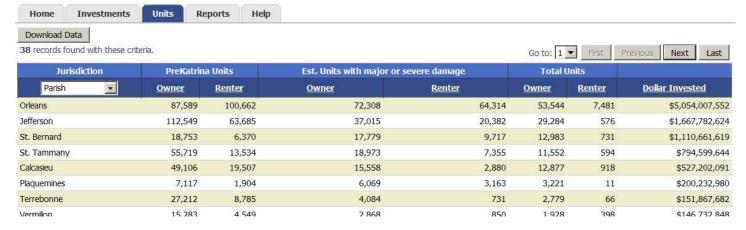
**Investments Tab:** This tab provides number of units and total investments by program. Data is aggregated by the jurisdiction selected by the user. As with the infrastructure portal, these reports can be downloaded as MS Excel files.



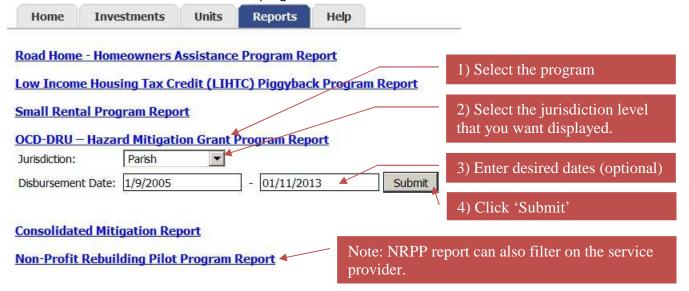
The dropdown box has a variety of jurisdictions to choose from, including: Louisiana Senate and House legislative districts, zip codes, New Orleans Planning Districts and Neighborhoods and a variety of census designations down to the block. When creating reports using these smaller designations, you may want to limit your overall search using the location filters first. For example, you could create a report based on all census tracts in Plaquemines Parish by first putting the location filter on Plaquemines Parish, click 'Apply', then select "Census Tract" as the jurisdiction.

**Units Tab:** This tab allows reporting by the same jurisdictions as the Investments tab. The Units tab provides additional context by including the pre-Katrina Census housing units for the selected area, as well as damage estimates from hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The total number of units and the total dollars invested are included again with this report, the purpose of which is to provide additional context by comparing investments to total units and damaged units.

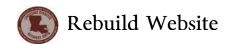




**Reports Tab:** This tab contains program-specific reports that work similarly to the disbursement reports in the Infrastructure portal. Selecting the report will open up the option to select the reporting jurisdiction and the dates of interest. The default date is the life of the program.

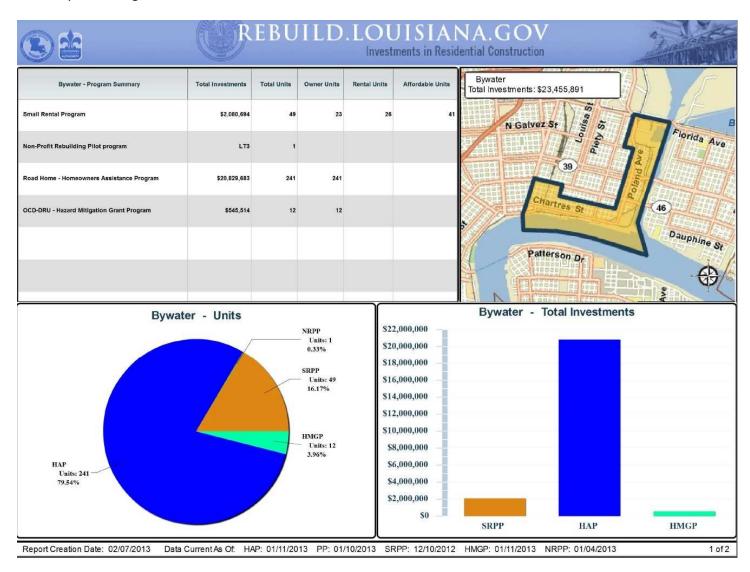


The Consolidated Mitigation Report is a special aggregated report that includes information from the Homeowner Assistance (Road Home) Program and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. This report does not break down by jurisdiction, but the information can be obtained by going to each of those program reports separately.



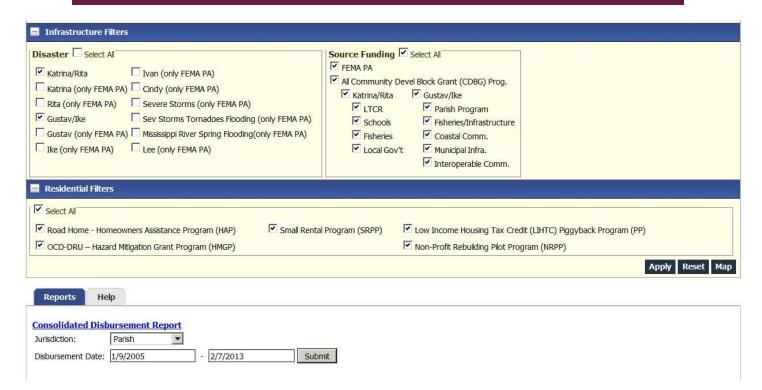
**Help:** This tab provides additional information about the site, including some basic instructions for using it, further explanations of the data contained within and answers to frequently asked questions.

**Residential Mapping:** In addition to maps similar to the one shown under the Consolidated Reports section (see the following section), the map function will also lead you to the Residential report tab. This report includes a map and data based on the filters selected. This report is downloadable in portable document format (pdf). An example of a report for the Bywater Neighborhood in New Orleans is shown below.

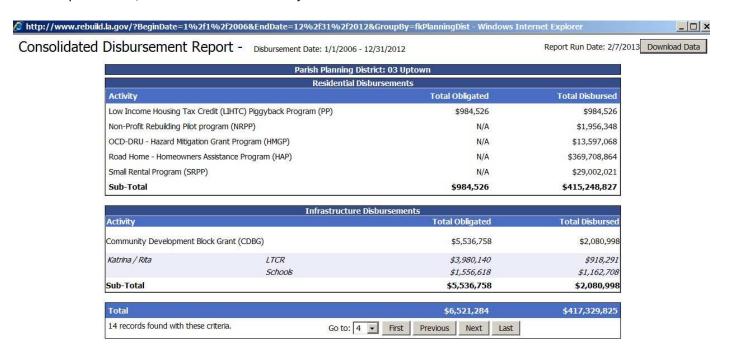


# **Consolidated Reports Portal**

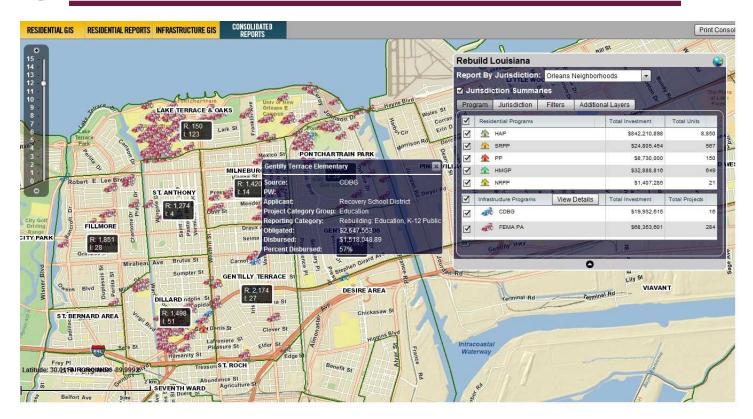
This portion of the website is relatively new. The purpose of this portal is to provide a means to select a jurisdiction and look at multiple recovery programs within a single jurisdiction. The location selections are the same, and both the Infrastructure and Residential program selection options are available. There is also a mapping portion to this portal with increased capabilities, including the ability to display aggregate residential investments on the same map as project locations.



**Reports Tab:** Operates in the same manner as the reports tab in the Infrastructure and Residential portals. An example of the consolidated report is below. While the report only displays one page at a time, when the data is downloaded as an Excel spreadsheet, the file contains all of the jurisdictions.



**Mapping Component:** When the mapping component is accessed through the Consolidated Reports tab, it displays both infrastructure and aggregated residential information. Summaries and call-out boxes are available on the map. Users can access the call-out box by rolling over a project location and clicking on the symbol.



#### Other Features and Considerations

**Mapping Components:** Maps are available through all three portals by clicking on the map button. In most cases, the user will probably access just infrastructure maps or just residential maps. Note that the residential data is aggregated to protect privacy, with the exception of the Piggyback program, while most infrastructure projects are represented with a single point. The location data is routinely updated and validated. If a project you are looking for does not show up on a map, check the box that says, "Only Show Projects With No Location Information". These projects will not show up if location filters are applied.

**Data Considerations:** The Rebuild Website will continue to evolve as more programs are added and requests for new features or modifications are implemented. The website is updated monthly, and the data contained within represents the best available as of the latest update. It can be a powerful tool for creating public awareness about ongoing recovery efforts. However it is not intended to be an audit tool and is not a comprehensive list of all activities.